

**Remarks**

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

Initially, applicant gratefully acknowledges the telephonic interview between Examiner Winkler and applicant's representative, Noreen L. Connolly, on November 15, 2005. The substance of that interview is set forth below.

Claims 1-34 have been canceled and new claims 35 and 36 introduced. New claims 35 and 36 correspond to original claims 6 and 14, but in independent form. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has identified the presently claimed subject matter as allowable.

The rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 12, 13, 20, and 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 (1<sup>st</sup> para.) for lack of enablement is moot and should be withdrawn in view of the above amendments.

The rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 12, 13, 32, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Korth et al., "Prion (PrP<sup>Sc</sup>)-Specific Epitope Defined by a Monoclonal Antibody," *Nature* 390:74-77 (1997) is moot and should be withdrawn in view of the above amendments.


The rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 12, 13, 32, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by EP 0 861 900 A1 to Korth et al. is moot and should be withdrawn in view of the above amendments.

The rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 12, 13, 32, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,765,088 to Korth et al. is moot and should be withdrawn in view of the above amendments.

In view of all of the foregoing, applicant submits that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Edwin V. Merkel  
Registration No. 40,087

NIXON PEABODY LLP  
Clinton Square, P.O. Box 31051  
Rochester, New York 14603-1051  
Telephone: (585) 263-1128  
Facsimile: (585) 263-1600

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<u>12-21-2005</u> Date	<u>Angelica N. Grouse</u> Angelica N. Grouse